



GDOT Publications

Policies & Procedures

Policy: 4420-2- Georgia Coordinate System of 1985
Section: Plane Coordinate System
Office/Department: Office of Design Policy & Support

Reports To: Division of Engineering
Contact: 404-631-1000

In 1985, Chapter 4 of Title 44 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated was amended. This Act changes the provisions relating to the horizontal coordinate system currently being used by the State of Georgia by adopting a new system.

This new and official coordinate system, which is to be used for designating the geographic position of points on the surface of the earth within the State, shall be known as the **Georgia Coordinate System of 1985**.

This new coordinate system is based upon recomputation of the coordinates for the monumented points of the North American Horizontal Geodetic Control Network by the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) office. The Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 uses the data as provided by the North American Datum of 1983 as the basis for computation.

The horizontal coordinates of survey stations which were computed by using the 1927 Datum, as authorized in the Act of 1945, were recomputed using the North American Datum of 1983. This recomputation will result in significantly different coordinate values. The new coordinates can easily be differentiated from the old by the large increase in the size of the easting (X) coordinate (see example).

Example:

Station	System	Northing (Y)	Easting (X)
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BV-011-103	1927	1,033,939.112	688,445.275
BV-001-103	1985	1,034,023,919	2,485,053.668

As specified in the Act, beginning January 1, 1990, the Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 will be the sole coordinate system for the State.

In order to comply with Georgia law, the Statewide Location Bureau has obtained a master listing of the coordinates of all monumented NGS points in Georgia which have been recomputed by the NGS to the 1985 Datum. This coordinate listing will be kept on file at the Office of Environment/Location and is available to governmental agencies and the public.

The Statewide Location Bureau will soon begin mapping projects with the 1985 coordinate system and by January 1, 1990, all future projects will be mapped and surveyed with the new coordinates.

If additional data is required after January 1, 1990, it will be provided in the same datum as the original mapping or survey.

It will be the policy of the Statewide Location Bureau to convert survey control stations (monuments and deltas) which have been set by this office to the 1985 Datum only upon request. All future stations set by this office will be coordinated using the Georgia Coordinate System of 1985.

The Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 does not affect the State's vertical datum. This coordinate system will not change any survey computation based upon centerline station and offset. This coordinate system will not affect area computations or bearing and distance computations. These will all be carried out exactly as before.

If there are any questions, contact the Statewide Location Bureau at 404-699-4401.

References:

None.

History:

office name changes: 08/21/13; added to Manual of Guidance: 06/28/89